

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS* FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

October 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unemployment Rate Declines

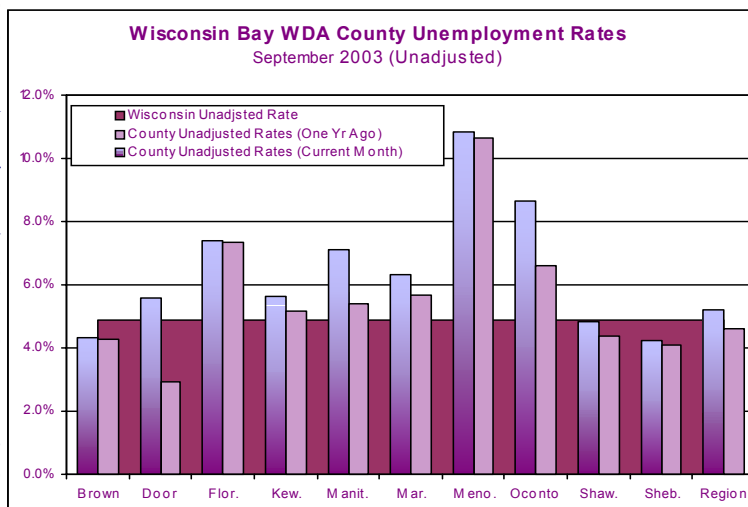
The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in the Wisconsin Bay Area continued to decline during September. This is quite typical for the month. The rate for the region

was down 0.5 of a percentage point. It was also fairly broad across the region with nine of the ten counties in the region experiencing a drop in their unemployment rate. Florence was the only county in the region with an increase, rising 0.7 of a percentage point to 7.4 percent.

The rate in the region was 5.2 percent. This compares 4.6 percent last September. The rate in a typical seasonal pattern has declined since June. The September rate is the lowest level for the Bay Area in 2003. Not only has the rate been declining for the last several months, but it has also been below the national average for the last five months. The region moved above the national rate beginning in January and had remained there until May.

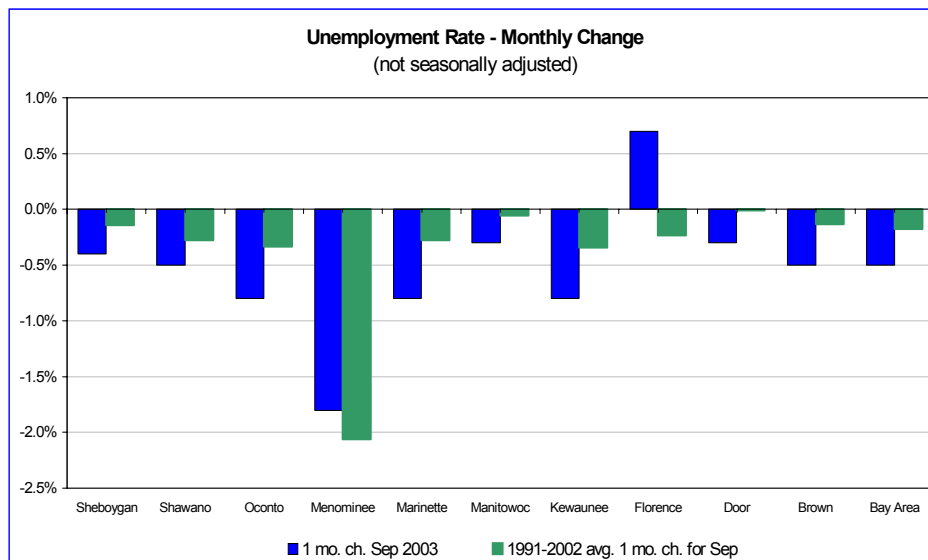
The decline for the month was slightly larger than usual for the Bay Area and most of the counties. How-

ever this would need to be a trend over several months to show that the area has begun to improve beyond normal seasonal changes, but it is good to see some positive signs in the region.



Typically there is an increase in the size of the region's labor force and a decline in the number of workers employed between August and September. Here the data for this year does not follow seasonal patterns as closely. The number of workers leaving the labor force over the month was 4,300, very close to the average for the month. The number of workers employed normally increases, however, this year the number of workers employed declined by 2,400. At the same time the number unemployed rose by 1,900.

Although employment data has been up and down over the year, signs that our economy continues to expand are apparent when looking at the number working and growth in the labor force over the year. The labor force is up by 12,800, and the number employed has increased by 10,200 since last September.



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Green Bay MSA was 4.9 percent, a decrease of 0.4 of a percentage point. This was 0.1 of a percentage point above last year. The rate for the Sheboygan MSA, was 4.7 percent, down from 5.0 percent. The rate for Sheboygan was 4.8 percent last year. The nation's rate

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was 6.1 percent. The rate for Wisconsin was 5.7 percent. For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

Important Notice on Future Issues of the Workforce Observation

* The *Workforce Observations* (WO) will go elec-

tronic only beginning with the January 2004 issue. After that date the Department will no longer provide print copies. If you wish to read the *Workforce Observation* you will be able to access it through the DWD Labor Market Information Website; <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>. You can also have DWD notify you when the WO is updated by subscribing to our notification service available on the site.

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area													
September 2003	Brown	Door	Flor.	Kew.	Manit.	Marinette	Meno.	Oconto	Shaw.	Sheb.	Bay Area	WI	
Civilian Labor Force*	148,300	18,500	2,000	11,100	45,900	23,000	2,300	16,800	20,800	66,600	355,300	3,087,200	
Employed	141,900	17,400	1,900	10,500	42,600	21,500	2,100	15,400	19,800	63,800	336,800	2,936,400	
Unemployed	6,400	1,000	100	600	3,300	1,500	300	1,500	1,000	2,800	18,500	150,800	
Unemployment rate(%)	4.3%	5.6%	7.4%	5.6%	7.1%	6.3%	10.9%	8.6%	4.8%	4.2%	5.2%	4.9%	
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.7%	-	5.7%	
Total Nonfarm	150,800	15,200	1,300	6,900	37,000	20,500	2,000	9,700	12,800	63,700	319,800	2,788,100	
Total Private	134,200	13,300	1,000	5,900	32,700	18,400	100	7,700	10,000	57,200	280,600	2,392,100	
Goods Producing	35,900	2,900	400	2,400	14,000	7,000	*	3,100	3,000	28,000	96,700	641,800	
Service Producing	114,900	12,200	1,000	4,500	23,000	13,500	2,000	6,500	9,800	35,700	223,100	2,146,300	
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	8,400	900	100	500	1,900	800	*	600	600	2,700	16,600	127,700	
Manufacturing	27,500	2,000	300	1,800	12,200	6,300	*	2,500	2,300	25,300	80,200	514,100	
Trade	21,600	1,800	100	800	4,200	3,000	100	1,000	2,000	7,400	42,000	436,400	
Transportation & Utilities	10,200	100	40	500	1,700	700	*	300	300	1,200	15,100	317,900	
Financial Activities	10,800	600	40	300	1,000	600	*	200	400	2,300	16,300	158,700	
Education and Health Services	18,200	1,500	100	600	4,800	2,800	*	1,000	1,600	6,500	37,100	366,500	
Leisure & Hospitality	14,300	4,900	200	800	3,100	2,000	*	1,300	1,500	4,000	32,200	248,400	
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	23,200	1,500	100	500	3,900	2,300	*	700	1,100	7,800	41,200	959,800	
Total Government	16,600	1,800	300	1,000	4,300	2,100	1,900	2,000	2,800	6,500	39,300	396,000	
Federal	1,000	100	30	100	200	100	*	100	100	200	2,000	28,500	
State	2,600	100	10	0	200	200	*	0	100	700	3,900	99,600	
Local	13,000	1,600	300	900	3,900	1,800	1,900	1,800	2,600	5,600	33,400	267,900	
Change from one month ago August 2003													
Civilian Labor Force*	-1,600	-1,000	100	-200	-400	-200	-100	100	-300	-800	-4,300	-44,700	
Employed	-800	-900	100	-100	-300	0	0	200	-100	-500	-2,400	-25,300	
Unemployed	-800	-100	0	-100	-100	-200	-100	-100	-100	-300	-1,900	-19,400	
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.5%	-0.3%	0.7%	-0.8%	-0.2%	-0.8%	-1.8%	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%	
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.3%	-	-0.2%	
Total Nonfarm	-500	-700	40	0	-100	0	-10	200	0	-200	-1,200	-10,400	
Total Private	-900	-800	-40	-100	-400	-300	0	-100	-200	-800	-3,600	-29,000	
Goods Producing	-400	-100	-10	-100	-200	-100	0	-100	-500	-1,500	-10,300		
Service Producing	-100	-600	50	100	100	100	-10	300	100	300	300	-100	
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-400	-3,400	
Manufacturing	-200	0	-10	0	-200	-100	0	-30	-50	-400	-1,080	-6,900	
Trade	-400	-100	-10	0	-100	-100	0	-10	-70	-100	-850	-5,600	
Transportation & Utilities	0	0	0	70	100	0	0	40	20	0	200	-5,100	
Financial Activities	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160	-500	
Education and Health Services	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	-10	0	0	150	2,900	
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	-500	-20	-60	-200	-100	0	-80	-60	-200	-1,490	-13,400	
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-200	0	0	-10	0	0	0	-10	0	0	-300	-1,200	
Total Government	400	100	70	80	300	300	-10	320	200	600	2,410	18,600	
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-10	0	0	-10	-100	
State	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	420	6,700	
Local	100	100	70	80	300	300	-10	330	200	500	2,010	12,000	
Change from one year ago September 2002													
Civilian Labor Force*	6,300	700	200	300	1,700	800	0	300	300	2,200	12,800	79,000	
Employed	6,000	200	100	200	800	600	0	0	200	2,100	10,200	66,600	
Unemployed	400	500	0	100	900	200	0	400	100	200	2,700	12,400	
Unemployment rate(%)	0.1%	2.7%	0.0%	0.4%	1.7%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1%	-	0.2%	
Total Nonfarm	2,600	-200	0	100	-100	0	-100	-200	-100	600	2,600	-5,500	
Total Private	3,200	-300	100	100	0	100	0	-200	0	500	3,500	2,000	
Goods Producing	100	-400	0	0	-400	-100	0	-200	0	100	-800	-24,700	
Service Producing	2,500	100	0	100	300	0	-100	0	-100	500	3,400	19,200	
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	0	0	0	0	-100	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-7,800	
Manufacturing	100	-400	0	0	-300	0	0	-200	0	100	-700	-16,900	
Trade	-500	-400	0	0	100	0	0	-100	100	100	-800	6,600	
Transportation & Utilities	500	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	-100	500	3,200	
Financial Activities	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	500	5,100	
Education and Health Services	300	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	100	300	1,000	8,200	
Leisure & Hospitality	1,700	800	0	100	0	200	0	200	0	-200	2,800	1,900	
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	900	-300	0	0	0	-100	0	-100	-200	200	400	19,000	
Total Government	-600	0	0	0	-200	-100	0	0	-100	100	-900	-7,500	
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-800	
State	-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	1,000	
Local	-500	0	0	0	-100	-100	0	0	0	100	-800	-7,700	

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWB data is benchmarked to 3/2002.

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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